

Resolution No. 11-16 (Amended)

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ADOPTION OF THE SAY'S FIREFLY AS THE STATE INSECT

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WHEREAS, the State of Indiana does not have any insect named as its official state insect, and

WHEREAS, Indiana is one of only three states that do not have an official state insect, and

WHEREAS, there has been significant interest in adopting an insect as the official state insect;
and

WHEREAS, the faculty and students of Cumberland Elementary school, in West Lafayette, Indiana, have conducted substantial research into the life of the Say's Firefly, (*Pyrrhopyga angulata*),
and

WHEREAS, it was named by Indiana's eminent naturalist, Thomas Say, in 1824, who lived and worked in New Harmony in Posey County, and is considered the Father of American Entomology, and

WHEREAS, the department of Entomology, at Purdue University supports having an official state insect, because of the contribution insects make to the quality of the lives of Indiana citizens, and

WHEREAS, insects constitute eighty percent of the world's animal species, and they are critical to the ecological balance of our earth, and

WHEREAS, Indiana has a state tree (the Tulip Poplar), a state flower (the Peony), and a state bird (the Cardinal), and

WHEREAS, the firefly (also called the "lightning bug fireflies"), are widely recognized, and beautiful and beneficial insects, and

WHEREAS, the Say's Firefly would be an excellent representative of Indiana's natural wildlife heritage, and

WHEREAS, by naming this particular species as the state insect, it also honors one of the greatest people in Indiana history, and

WHEREAS, by adopting the Say's Firefly as the state insect, it supports agriculture, and business, which in turn builds Indiana's economy.

WHEREAS, by adopting the Say's Firefly as the state insect, it would provide a unique teaching opportunity for educators and a point of pride for citizens of Indiana.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana that it is the policy of the City that:

Section 1. The City of West Lafayette, Indiana hereby adopts the Say's Firefly as the official insect of the City

Section 2. Adopting the Say's Firefly as the official state insect would promote business, agriculture, education, and prosperity in West Lafayette.

Section 3. The city of West Lafayette, encourages and supports the adoption of the Say's Firefly as the official state insect by the Indiana General Assembly.

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If you have questions about this, please contact the Office of the Clerk at clerk@westlafayette.in.gov.
Thank you.